

SM



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/447,658	11/23/1999	SATOSHI MUKOGAWA	1075.1123/JD	4075

21171 7590 01/29/2002

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
700 11TH STREET, NW
SUITE 500
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, NGA B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2164

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SM

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/447,658

Applicant(s)
Mukogawa

Examiner
Nga B. Nguyen

Art Unit
2164



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 23, 1999
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 3 20) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2164

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the communication filed on November 23, 1999 , which paper has been placed of record in the file.
2. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-15 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Vajk et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,265,033.

Regarding to claim 1, Vajk discloses an automated financial transaction system comprising:

a plurality of automated financial tellers machines (ATM), responsive to operations by customers, for performing various transactions (column 3, lines 50-60); and

a management apparatus, communicatably connected with each of ATMs via an exclusive line, for managing the transactions (column 4, lines 50-63);

Art Unit: 2164

said ATMs including a first ATM having a message input section for inputting a message for a remittance destination during remittance transaction, and said first ATM being operable to send said message to a message depository via a public communications network for storage (column 5, lines 30-43);

said first ATM being also operable to send remittance information and depository information about where said message is stored to said management apparatus via said exclusive line for management purposes (column 6, lines 10-45).

Regarding to claim 2, Vajk further discloses an information terminal communicatably connected with said first ATM via said public communications network such that said first ATM notifies said information terminal of said depository information via public communications network (column 6, lines 47-57)..

Regarding to claim 3, Vajk further discloses an information terminal communicatably connected with said management apparatus via said public communications network such that said management apparatus notifies said information terminal of said depository information via said public communications network (column 6, lines 58-column 7, line 2).

Regarding to claim 4, Vajk further discloses the notification of said depository information is recognized by a remittance-destination customer at said information terminal, said information terminal is responsive to a request of the remittance-destination customer to read from said message depository said message from a remittance source; based on said notified

Art Unit: 2164

depository information, and to reproduce said message at said information terminal (column 6, lines 58-column 7, line 2).

Regarding to claim 5, Vajk further discloses the notification of said depository information is recognized by a remittance-destination customer at said information terminal, said information terminal is responsive to a request of the remittance-destination customer to read from said message depository said message from a remittance source, based on said notified depository information, and to reproduce said message at said information terminal (column 6, lines 10-20).

Regarding to claim 6, Vajk further discloses ATMs include a second ATM communicatably connected with said message depository via said public communications network and having a message reproducing section for reproducing said message from the remittance source which message is stored in said message depository; and wherein when said message from the remittance source is recognized by the remittance-destination customer at second ATM, said second ATM reads from said message depository information obtained from said management apparatus, and reproduces said message on said message reproducing section.(column 6, lines 10-45).

Regarding to claim 7, Vajk further discloses ATMs including a second ATM, wherein when said message from the remittance source is recognized by the remittance-destination customer at said second ATM, said second ATM obtains from said managements apparatus said depository information of said message from the remittance source and prints said depository

Art Unit: 2164

information on a passbook of the remittance-destination customer and notifies the remittance-destination customer of said depository information (column 9, line 55-column 10, line 6).

Regarding to claim 8, Vajk further discloses ATMs including a second ATM, wherein when said message from the remittance source is recognized by the remittance-destination customer at said second ATM, said second ATM obtains from said management apparatus said depository information and prints said depository information on a slip addressed to the remittance-destination customer and notifies the remittance-destination customer of said depository information (column 9, line 55-column 10, line 6).

Regarding to claim 9, Vajk further discloses information terminal is communicatably connected with said message depository of each said ATM via said public communications network and has a message reproducing function for reproducing said message from the remittance source which message is stored in said message depository, said information terminal being operable to read from said message depository said message from the remittance source, based on said notified depository information, and to reproduce the read message at said information terminal (column 13, line 49-column 14, line 20).

Regarding to claim 10, Vajk further discloses information terminal is communicatable connected with said message depository of each said ATM via said public communications network and has a message reproducing function for reproducing said message from the remittance source which message is stored in said message depository, said information terminal being operable to read from said message depository said message from the remittance source,

Art Unit: 2164

based on said notified depository information, and to reproduce the read message at said information terminal (column 13, line 49-column 14, line 20).

Regarding to claim 11, Vajk further discloses information terminal is communicatable connected with said message depository of each said ATM via said public communications network and has a message reproducing function for reproducing said message from the remittance source which message is stored in said message depository, said information terminal being operable to read from said message depository said message from the remittance source, based on said notified depository information, and to reproduce the read message at said information terminal (column 13, line 49-column 14, line 20).

Regarding to claim 12, Vajk further discloses information terminal is communicatably connected with said message depository of each said ATM via said public communications network and has a message reproducing function for reproducing said message from the remittance source which message is stored in said message depository, said information terminal being operable to read from said message depository said message from the remittance source, based on said notified depository information, and to reproduce the read message at said information terminal (column 13, line 49-column 14, line 20).

Regarding to claim 13, Vajk further discloses information terminal is communicatably connected with said management apparatus via said public communications network and has a remittance transacting function and a message input function for inputting a message to the remittance destination during the remittance transaction; and wherein, when a message to the

Art Unit: 2164

remittance destination is inputted by said message input function of said information terminal in response to a customer's operation, said information terminal sends said message to said message depository via said public communications network for storage and also sends remittance information and depository information of said message to said management apparatus via said public communications network for management by said management apparatus (columns 14-15).

Regarding to claim 14, Vajk further discloses if the remittance transaction mail in said first ATM is for the remittance destination associated with another management apparatus which manages transactions in a unique communicating data format different from the electronic transaction format to be used by the first-named management apparatus, said first ATM sends said remittance information and said depository information of said message to said first named management apparatus via said exclusive line, whereupon said first-named management apparatus sends said remittance information and said depository information to the second-named management apparatus (column 6, lines 10-45).

Regarding to claim 15, Vajk further discloses ATMs include a third ATM which is to be managed by said second-named management apparatus and which is communicatably connected with said message depository via said public communications network and which has a message reproducing section for reproducing said message from the remittance source which is stored in said message depository; and wherein when said message from the remittance source is recognized by the remittance-destination customer at said third ATM, said third ATM reads said message from the remittance source from message depository, based on said depository

Art Unit: 2164

information obtained from said second-named management apparatus, for reproduction thereby (column 6, lines 10-20).

Regarding to claims 18-19, Vajk further discloses public communications network is Internet or an Intranet (column 4, lines 1-17).

Regarding to claim 20, Vajk further discloses message depository is a message server connected to said public communications network (column 16, line 30-column 17, line 5).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vajk et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,256,033 in view of Official Notice taken by Examiner.

Regarding to claims 16-17, Vajk does not teach message includes image data and voice data.

Official notice is taken that electronic mail message includes image data and voice data is old and well-known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to include image and voice data in the Vajk's electronic message for the purpose of allowing the user can able to send image or voice data in the electronic message.

Art Unit: 2164

Conclusion

7. Claims **1-20** are rejected.

8. The prior arts made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

 Semple et al. (US 6,085,177) discloses the system for providing Internet access through an automatic teller machine.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Nga B. Nguyen, whose telephone number is (703)306-2901. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

 If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent A. Millin, can be reached on (703)308-1065.

10. **Any response to this action should be mail to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

c/o Technology Center 2700

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

(703) 308-5397 (for informal or draft communications, please label


"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Art Unit: 2164

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II,
2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington.
VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding
should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Nga B. Nguyen
January 17, 2002



VINCENT MILLIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100